



WIFV NEWS

December 2015



President's Message

November was a whirlwind month for Women in Film & Video, and it's not slowing down. The holidays are upon us, and if you're like me, you may come down with a good case of compassion

fatigue before it's all over. Don't let yourself get so busy that you miss the beauty of a day, the smile of a friend, or the small moments that create life's most lasting memories. WIFV members go above and beyond on a daily basis, and some also reach out to the community, providing service to help those in need. Remember to take care of yourself in the process.

WIFV regularly recognizes a member who exemplifies community service with the **Liesel Flashenberg Award**. Past winners include Rona Fitzgerald, Vicki Warren, and past president Hillary Kirsner. WIFV established the Liesel Flashenberg Award for Community Service in 2010 to honor the memory of Liesel Flashenberg, a past president of WIFV, and to acknowledge all she contributed to her communities through her work with immigrant women and the establishment of Through the Kitchen Door International. The award is presented each year to a WIFV member who exemplifies Liesel's dedication to giving back and making a difference to non-profits in the area. **If you know a member that you would like to nominate, fill out the online nomination form [here](#).** The winner will be announced at the annual [WIFV/TIVA Holiday Party](#) on January 22, 2016, at the Harman Center for the Arts.

This year, on Tuesday, December 1, 2015, Women in Film & Video is participating in **#GivingTuesday**, a global day dedicated to giving. Since its founding in 2012, #GivingTuesday has inspired giving around the world, resulting in greater donations, volunteer hours, and activities that bring about real change in communities. As a membership-driven

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Giving Tuesday - Dec 1



WIFV has joined the **#GivingTuesday**

movement! The idea is a great one: on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, have a day of giving that harnesses the collective power of individuals, communities, and organizations to encourage philanthropy and to celebrate generosity worldwide. Occurring this year on December 1, #GivingTuesday is an antidote to the consumerism of Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

#GivingTuesday is about ordinary people coming together to do extraordinary things.

As you're making your giving plans for the year, how about giving \$35, \$50, or \$75 to WIFV's Documentary Seed Fund on #GivingTuesday? Thanks to the generosity of WIFV Members, we have already raised \$7,000 toward our \$35,000 goal. Help us get to \$10,000 so we can award the first grants to WIFV members in 2016.

Be the change you want to see in our industry. We will all benefit from the diverse perspectives and creative artistry in the films

organization, WIFV relies on volunteers and donations to augment the dedicated work of our board and staff. We invite you to join the movement and give to WIFV this December 1. Some ideas include:

1. Use the hashtag #GivingWIFV to talk about Women in Film & Video and why you support our organization on your social media accounts, and post a #UnSelfie to show why you give to WIFV.
2. [Donate to the WIFV Seed Fund for Documentary Filmmakers](#). Because start-up funding in particular is so difficult to raise, many worthy media projects with women in above-the-line positions never get off the ground. But with even a \$35 contribution, you can help a filmmaker test a concept or conduct background interviews for a compelling documentary.
3. Identify an in-kind donation for WIFV events and services. Providing a venue for a membership event or volunteers for outreach programs like [Image Makers](#) and the [Kids World Film Festival](#) helps WIFV to continue to serve our community of artists and mentor future filmmakers.

There are many ways to get involved in giving back. We encourage you to join the movement, recognize an unselfish WIFV member, and relieve your compassion fatigue at the holiday party January 22. Special thanks to Kathy Dismukes for her dedication and commitment to WIFV fundraising.

Wishing you peace, joy, and abundance,

Rebecca

produced with the help of the WIFV Seed Fund.

More than Playtime: Makeup Weds One

In the world of film, video and print, the way you look is a big deal especially in this new age of high definition. Makeup is more than playing with lipstick colors, eye shadows, or new no-run mascara. It is an art form that enhances, transforms, and magnifies - sometimes more than we like.

More Than Playtime - Makeup is a discussion with **Carolyn Marie** and **LaTonya Winters** about their craft, their top beauty secrets, and a few demonstrations on how a simple brush stroke can refresh a face.

December 2, 2015, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Interface Media Group, 1233 20th Street NW
\$15 WIFV Members / \$30 Public
[RSVP here](#)

Roundtable Round-Up

Narrative Directors Roundtable *New Director Teams are Forming*
December 7, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Interface Media Group, 1233 20th Street NW
[RSVP here](#)

Education & Children's Media Roundtable - *Black Broadway on U Transmedia Project*
December 8, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Interface Media Group, 1233 20th Street NW
[RSVP here](#)

2015: What a Year for You and WIFV!

By Kathy Dismukes, WIFV Treasurer

"Go to one of WIFV's workshops or seminars, and you'll find a wide demographic, from newbies just out of film school to seasoned producers, scriptwriters, directors, etc. WIFV is the resource for film and video professionals. Members are supportive of each other and not competition-phobic. This is the place to encounter colleagues with whom you can collaborate. I love WIFV!"
Member since 1984

It's so great to hear that what you're putting out there is actually having an impact on people's lives and careers. As we come to the end of 2015, we thought you'd enjoy these highlights, all made possible by our members, funders, volunteers, and, of course, our indefatigable ("Sleep-what's that?") executive director, Melissa Houghton.

Wednesday Ones - Our signature professional development programs covered a great variety of topics this year. There were sessions on producing and freelancing for the federal government,

salary negotiation techniques, choosing a camera package, lighting for various conditions, hair and makeup for high-def, and more.

Production Master Classes - Made possible by funding from the Gem Star Foundation, this series included producing for politics, production design, and cable/broadcast entertainment.

"Amazing! Great presentation, my head is spinning with so much info, once again, top-notch presenter and presentation. WIFV is just the best ;)" Member

Spotlight on Screenwriters - WIFV VP Monica Lee Bellais, with support from board member Hillary Shea, once again worked with dozens of emerging writers in a series of workshops designed to bring their work up to industry standards. The second edition of the Spotlight on Screenwriters Catalogue was released at ScriptDC. Featuring almost 40 production-ready scripts chosen from submissions of DC writers, the catalogue is currently being distributed to top Hollywood and NY producers.

ScriptDC - This signature conference connects Mid-Atlantic writers, producers, and talent to accomplished teachers, consultants, and industry professionals. The 10th edition featured Joan Darling, Agnieszka Holland, Dawn Porter, Ligiah Villalobos, Tom Schulman, Laurie Scheer, Bill Svanoe, Sheree Guitar, and nearly 20 others.



"This was my first ScriptDC conference. The expert advice was invaluable. I practiced my pitch before some amazing women who were both thoughtful and knowledgeable. Thank you, WIFV, et al, for an eye-opening, wonderful experience." Desiree French

Partnerships - Working with our partners, we extend our reach, eliminate duplication of effort, and increase our impact. This year we co-hosted programs with DCCTV, Docs in Progress, The Actor's Center, the Foundation Center, TIVA, DC Film Alliance, and more.

Profile-raising - WIFV's Executive Director, Melissa Houghton, appeared with two other women industry insiders on the *Kojo Nnamdi Show* (WAMU-FM). The panel discussed how women are working to solve gender inequality through actions that include proactively hiring other women, ensuring a greater number of films included in festivals are women-made, and offering professional development and networking opportunities (WIFV's specialty!).



Documentary Seed Fund - In the spirit of being the change we want to see, we launched this fund last year. To date we've raised \$7000 toward the goal and hope you will help women break through the celluloid ceiling. Be the change you want to see by giving a tax- deductible contribution to the WIFV Documentary Seed Fund today. [Do it here!](#)

Great Nonprofits Top-Rated Award - For the fourth year in a row, WIFV won this award, which goes to only 1% of the thousands of qualifying nonprofits the site rates. *"I just wanted to let you know how awesome and inspiring it has been to be a member of WIFV. I was referred to join by another member, whom I have thanked tremendously for informing me about the group."*

Member

Mayor's Arts Award - WIFV won the award for Excellence in Service to the Arts at the 30th annual Mayor's Arts Awards in Washington, DC. Wow!

TIVA's Community Partner Award - This first-ever award went to our own Melissa Houghton, in recognition of the invaluable role she has played in bringing the entire media community in the DC region together. Congratulations, Melissa!

Media Job Fair - The 17th annual edition of the only media job fair in the Mid Atlantic connected 250+ job seekers with almost 20 exhibitors, including Interface Media Group, RHed Pixel, PBS, and SiriusXM.



Roundtables - A number of new WIFV Roundtables were launched or relaunched in the last year, including Education and Children's Media, Narrative Directors, and Animators.

WIFV Listserv - As of late November, more than 4,120 messages had been posted to the main listserv. When you add in the messages from the roundtable listservs, the number is truly astounding! This resource is the communication hub in the region to find collaborators, jobs, technical advice, event info, and news you can use. With nearly 1,000 people in your back office, you are always ready to respond to your clients and expand your knowledge. *"Makeup for tomorrow found! Has to be a new world's record....less than five minutes and solved. Love the WIFV-DC listserv!!"* Jay Schlossberg, Media Central, WIFV Star Sponsor

And congratulations to you for being a part of Women in Film & Video. We are planning a huge 2016 and look forward to giving you a sneak peek in the January Newsletter. Happy holidays, everyone! See you at the Holiday Party January 22! Make your reservation before the price increase on December 31. [RSVP here](#)

WIFV/TIVA Holiday Party - January 22



Revive your spirits and get energized at the WIFV / TIVA Holiday Party on Friday, January 22. This is a night you don't want to miss. Celebrate the New Year with friends, food, door prizes, and networking.

Let the laughter ring!

Friday, January 22, 2016, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Harman Center for the Arts, 610 F Street, NW (Gallery Place Metro)

\$25 WIFV / TIVA Members/\$40 Public

[RSVP here](#)

Prices will increase December 31, so make your reservation soon!

Spotlight on Screenwriters 2015 Released

Monica Lee Bellais, Founder, Editor-in-Chief, *Spotlight on Screenwriters*, WIFV Board Member
Hillary Shea, Managing Editor, *Spotlight on Screenwriters*, WIFV Board Member

Spotlight on Screenwriters strives to connect diverse stories with filmmakers who can bring stories to life. In 2014, the catalogue was new and unique in making that connection. Screenwriters included in the 2014 catalogue have done well since publication. They have been commissioned for projects, and are finalists or winners of various competitions, including the BlueCat Screenplay Competition, Screencraft, The Black List's NYC Mini-Lab, the GI Film Festival Screenwriting Contest, the PAGE International Screenwriting Awards, Charleston International Film Festival Screenwriting Competition, Austin Screenplay and Teleplay Competition, StoryPros, Final Draft Big Break Screenwriting Contest, and the Cannes Court Metrage Film Festival. One of the screenwriters is a 2015 Fellow for the Latino Screenwriting Project (sponsored by NALIP, CineFestival, and Sundance Institute).

By showcasing the outstanding screenplays written in DC, the 2015 catalogue again serves as an introduction for a diverse group of screenwriters and storytellers, whose fascinating personal and professional backgrounds will speak to policymakers as much as filmmakers.

We are thrilled to help these talented screenwriters and are incredibly grateful for the filmmakers, producers, and financiers who have shown an interest in this wonderful and exciting initiative. We, along with WIFV, are happy to salute the authors in the 2015 *Spotlight on Screenwriters*.

Comedy

ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL by Jamie Odeneal and Madeline Holler

BOOBS by Arla Bowers

THE CREEPY HOUSE by Shoshana Rosenbaum

DO IT YOURSELF CLONING by Alex Schor

HAIR BAND by John Benedetto
LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION by Greg Tindale
UP AGAINST THE MALL by Desiree French and Samuel P. McCrea

Drama

AN UN-CIVIL War by Diane Williams
DEBRA AND MONA by Gloria Ui Young Kim
DUTY FREE by Content T. Johnson
J. DIAMOND by Diedre Couey
LOVE'S DUTY by Joy Cheriell Brown
MARTHA'S DISCOVERIES by Charles Germain and Alexandria Cunningham
MENDING FENCES by Dianne Duncan Perrote
RECKLESS by Nancy Bannon
ROUGH RIDER by Kym Richardson
SAVING WASHINGTON by Jane Hampton Cook
SHABBAT SUNDAYS by Joy Cheriell Brown
SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY by Jeff Rosenberg and MJ Stemp
SPATTERED by Laurie K. Miller
TO TELL THE TRUTH by Tatiana Breslin
UNDARK by Natalia Megas
WITHOUT CONSENT by Roberta Rovner Pieczenik

Horror/Thriller

DEATHBED by Faith DeVeaux
THE ENEMY WITHIN by Debbi Mack
FAMILIAR VOICES by Mehmet Elbirlik
THE FREE WORLD by Cheryl Little
THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GRASS by Brian Streaty
SECURITY by Jason Lobe
WORD OF WARNING by Linda Robbins

Romantic Comedy

THE FRANKLIN INTERNATIONAL by Nancy Breslin
LOVE ON THE 7 by Jane Barbara
MEET CUTE by Matt McNevin
ORPHEUS TAKES A DETOUR by Edythe Wise

Sci-Fi/Fantasy

FATROPOLIS by Tracey L. Thompson
HEAVEN AND EARTH by Sonya Dunn
INTERNE by Heather Jones
LINEAGE by Michael Koehler and Ryan Patch
Y-BIRD by Nick Barker



Supporter Spotlight: DC Camera

Supporter Spotlight recognizes the work and contributions to the industry of WIFV's supporters. As a 501(c)3 community benefit organization, WIFV relies on financial support from companies, individuals, foundations, and government entities. To find out how your company can support Women in Film & Video, please contact Melissa Houghton at director@wifv.org.



Erich Roland began DC Camera in 2004 after Roland House closed its doors and left a need for high-definition rentals in Washington DC. The company has grown steadily in the last 11 years and can now boast the largest and most

comprehensive inventory of "cine style" equipment between New York and Atlanta.

After Penn/Calumet closed its doors about a year ago, DC Camera began moving into Stills Photography. This new avenue has grown substantially in the last year. Our Lighting and Grip department has also been filling out lately with many new LED type products and the usual gear expected from any L&G rental house. Many productions are taking advantage of our "one stop" shopping for Camera and Lighting rentals as well as Audio needs. Additionally, we sell expendables and are dealers for Superior Seamless, stocking the more common colors, as well as Gaffers Tape and Lee Brand Gels.

DC Camera boasts many regular clients including National Geographic, Discovery Channel, as well as TV shows like NCIS. We cater to large commercials and movies when filming in town. Small producers, from Weekend Dads needing a longer lens to film their boys' football games to Wedding Photographers, can count on us for excellent service.

Please stop by when in Merrifield to meet the staff and tour our facility or visit our website at www.dc-camera.com. You can find us on Facebook, email us at info@dc-camera.com or call us at 703-527-3311.

Betsy Steinberg Joins Kartemquin



Betsy Steinberg will join Kartemquin as Executive Director on December 1. She joins Kartemquin having served as the Managing Director of the Illinois Film Office from 2007-2015, guiding the local industry through an era of unprecedented growth. She will oversee all aspects of Kartemquin filmmaking, programs, and operations, serving as executive producer on all new films. In the position, she succeeds Justine Nagan, who was recently named Executive Director of American Documentary, Inc. (AmDoc) and Executive Producer of POV (Point of View), after over a decade with Kartemquin. Kartemquin's co-founder Gordon Quinn, due to be honored for his services to filmmaking by the International Documentary Association with their 2015 IDA Career Achievement Award on December 5, remains Kartemquin's Artistic Director.

JOIN US

Government VIDEO EXPO 2015

WHERE WASHINGTON'S TV, VIDEO AND AV PROFESSIONALS GATHER TO NETWORK, LEARN AND DISCOVER NEW TECHNOLOGIES

[LEARN MORE](#)

Washington, DC | Conferences Dec. 1-3 | Exhibits Dec. 2-3

The advertisement features a collage of four photos at the top showing people at a trade show. Below the photos is a blue banner with the text "JOIN US". The main title "Government VIDEO EXPO 2015" is prominently displayed, with "Government" in a smaller font and "VIDEO EXPO 2015" in a larger, bold font. A circular logo with a white dome (resembling the US Capitol) is to the left of the title. Below the title is the tagline "WHERE WASHINGTON'S TV, VIDEO AND AV PROFESSIONALS GATHER TO NETWORK, LEARN AND DISCOVER NEW TECHNOLOGIES". A red button with white text says "LEARN MORE". At the bottom, the event details "Washington, DC | Conferences Dec. 1-3 | Exhibits Dec. 2-3" are listed.

Call for WIFV Members in the News Articles

What's the best way to brag about your accomplishments? With a Members in the News article, of course. Not only can you include a photo and your website, it is archived at www.wifv.org and adds to your SEO.

Submit your paragraph, jpg photo, and any links to director@wifv.org by the 5th of the month.

Call for Award Info

If you have won an award, screened at a film festival, or received a major grant, please let me know so we can share your success. Send the info to director@wifv.org

New and Renewing Members

The following joined or renewed their WIFV membership (November 1 - November 30).

Caroline Allnutt Felicia Barlow Clar Sean Bartel Gayle Berens Susan Bodiker Senia Borden Arla Bowers Donna Brant Larry Brown Barbara Buchanan Heather Callahan-Stevens Jeff Carpenter Caitlin Carroll Erika Christie Thomas Clement Christine Colburn William David Crosson Ivora Cusack Carol Dalrymple Araceli de Leon Herlihy Sheila Dennin Aditi Desai Elisabeth Doyle Dianne Duncan Perrote Richelle Fatheree Susan Fertig-Dykes Liz Fletcher Brown Lynn-Jane Foreman Tara Foster Nancy Frohman Todd Gardner Katy Garrity Cecilia Gonzales	Douglas Hanback Frances Hardin Janna Hearn Kim Holcomb Steven Holloway Tanya Hutchins Anna Reid Jhirad Andrea Johnson Kayt Jonsson Rachel Kennedy Kate LaPierre Shannon Lawrence Matt LeClair Kathryn LeDain Melissa Leebaert Gussie Lehman Elissa Leonard Dessa Little Brian Mac Ian Reina Martin Elizabeth Martins Laura McCann Bruce McKaig Jill Merrick John Metherell Brad Minardi Paulette Moore Mojgan Oskouei Luke Persian Roberta Pieczenik Gillian Ray Kelly Reilly Erich Roland	Judy Rolfe Zohar Rom Shoshana Rosenbaum Catherine Russell Chris Sciannella Katie Sheridan Nailah Sims Carol Slatkin Lavon Starks Jonathan Stein Karina Stenquist Mary Stephens Jaia Thomas Kamilah Thurmon Kimberly Townsend Ilana Trachtman Jeff Trussell Heather Ukryn Lauren Vance Geena Vontress William Washington Carole Watson Christine Weber Marie Wiljanen Kennedy Wright Corporate Members: Barbizon Capitol DC Camera Kennedy Sound, LLC Teampeople. LLC

About WIFV

WIFV supports professionals in the media industry by promoting equal opportunities, encouraging professional development, serving as an information network, and educating the public about women's creative and technical achievements.

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amazon smile



WIFV is grateful for the annual support of these [companies](#) and our [corporate members](#).